ARTICLES

to be inquired of

In the Sixt Visitation of the Right Reverend Father in God,

GODFREY,

L. Bishop of GLOCESTER,

Holden ANNO 1640.

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LONDON,
Printed by T. HARPER, 1640.

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Advertiſements.

THat ſhort morning Prayer be every day read in Market townes, and in all other places where conveniently it may bee. That Preachers doe not ſo much intend (ſ.en ar.d long Preaching, as painefull and profitable Preaching; and that they do not touch upon controverſies in Religion, according to his Majeſties Inſtructions.

2 That the Incumbent and Churchwardens do inſtantly preſent what land belongs to their Church, and what utenſils, and in whoſe hands and cuſtody they are: and when any man is preſented for a crime, if within five or ſix Court dayes after his preſentment, the party bee not put to ſome open puniſhment in the ſame Pariſh where the offence was committed, then it may bee ſuppoſed that he hath made a Commutation, which as it is wholly to be imployed in charitable works, ſo my Lord Biſhop is reſolved, that heerafter it ſhall be beſtowed in ſetting poore people on worke; wherein my Lord will uſe the help of the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, and ſome other of the Pariſh, who ſomtimes taking the advice and direction of the next Iuſtice of the Peace, may ſee it emploied to that purpoſe: and therefore my Lord deſires them to be careful, as in preſenting the crime, ſo in calling for the Commutation, and to do both as ſpeedily as they may.

3 That every Incumbent have a ſpeciall care to be well provided with ſuch armor as his predeceſſors have formerly found, and that he be ready to ſhew it upon any ſhort warning: that he pay ſuch accuſtomed fees to the Muſter-Maſter, as formerly hee hath done:

done: and if there shall be any difference in paying Procurations; that then he bring forth his former acquittance, that so his payments may be accordingly.

4 If any Officers of the Spirituall Court, whether Chancellor Arch-deacon, Register, Proctor, Apparators, have increased their fees, or otherwise abused either Clergy or Laity in the execution of their office, upon complaint made the offence shalbe punished, and a course taken hereafter for their amendment, and satisfaction shall be made unto them who have been so abused.

5 When any Parish shall receive either Briefes or Bookes by command of Superiors, the monyes for the price of them are to be paid into the Registers Office, and the Messengers according to their pains shall be rewarded, unles the Deanes in their Deanries be imployed, and then all to be left to their discretions.

6 In all payments due to his Majesty, my Lords Subcollector shall attend the first and the last day wherin such payments are due; and my Lord doeth further adde out of his respects to the Clergy, the thirtieth day after, and on these three dayes my Lords Subcollector shall daily attend at the Palace in *Glocester*, and the monyes shall be received on no other dayes: for it is unreasonable that the Subcollector should in effect howrly attend for two months together. And if any of these dayes fall upon a Sunday, then the day following is appointed.

THe Minister and Church-wardens are to call unto them the neighbours of the Parish, and out of them to make choise (according to the custome of the place) of two of the discreetest Parishioners, to be Sidemen; and they all together are to read over these Articles divers times.

Then, after they have duly considered of them, they are to write their Answer or Presentment unto every Article particularly & truly, according to their consciences.

Lastly, they are all of them to bring their Presentments to the Visitation, and there the Church-wardens & Sidemen upon their oaths, but the Minister according to the Canon in that behalfe, are to deliver them up under their hands.

The Oath ministred to the Church-wardens and Sidemen.

YOu shall sweare, that all Affection, Favour, Hatred, Hope of Reward and Gaine, or feare of displeasure, or malice, set aside: You shall upon due consideration of the Articles given you in charge, present all and every such person, of, or within your Parish, as hath committed any offence or fault, or made any default mentioned in these, or any of these Articles: or which are vehemently suspected and defamed of any offence or default: wherin you shall deliver uprightly, and according to truth; neither of malice presenting any contrary to truth, nor of corrupt affection sparing to present any, and so conceale the truth: Having in this action God before your eyes, with an earnest zeale to maintaine truth, and to suppresse vice: So helpe you God, and the Contents of this Booke.

MY Lord doth heereby ſtraitly charge and require all the Clergie, that every man in perſon doe addreſſe himſelfe to the Chancellour, and informe him what he hath already paid towards the repairing of Saint *Pauls* Church, to whom he hath paid it, and what he intends to pay heereafter: and therein my Lord doth earneſtly intreat them to ſhew their bounty, as being a worke of great piety, tending much to the glory of God, the good of this Church, and the honour of this Kingdome.

Adver-

Articles concerning Miniſters, Divine Service, and *adminiſtration of the Sacraments.*

IMprimis, Whether hath your Miniſter read the Conſtitutions ſet forth by his Majeſty once every yéer upon ſome Sunday or Holiday, in the afternoon, before divine ſervice as he is bound?

2 Item, Whether is the preſcript forme of divine Service uſed by your Miniſter or Curate upon Sundayes, Holydayes, Wedneſdayes, Fridayes and Saturdayes, according to the Booke of common Prayer? and whether doth your Miniſter or Curate duely obſerve all the ordeus, rites, and ceremonies preſcribed and ſet down in the ſaid book of common Prayer, both in reading publike prayers, and therein the Letany, and alſo in adminiſtring the Sacraments in ſuch maner and forme as by the book of common Prayer by Law now eſtabliſhed, is enjoined?

3 Item, Whether doth your Parſon, Vicar or Curate, weare the Surplice when and at what times ſoever he doth ſay the publike prayers and adminiſter the Sacraments in your Church or Chapel? and if he be any Graduate, whether then doth he alſo weare upon his Surplice at and during the times aforeſaid ſuch a hood as by the orders of his Univerſity is agréeable to his degrée, according to the 58. Canon?

4 Item, Whether doth your Parſon, Vicar, or Lecturer, read Divine Service, and adminiſter the Sacraments in his owne perſon thrice every yéere, obſerving all the ceremonies in the Booke of Common Prayer, eſtabliſhed according to the 56 Canon?

5 Item, Whether doth your Miniſter or Curate preach uſually according to the Conſtitutions? or how often hath he been negligent in that behalfe?

6 Item, Whether doth your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, in the prayer used immediatly before his Sermon use to pray for the Kings Majesty, King Charles, Queene Mary, Prince Charles, and the Royall Progeny, giving unto him such stile and title of supream Governor in all causes, and over all persons, aswell Ecclesiasticall as Temporall, as by Law are due unto him: and doth he also in the said Prayer use to pray for all Archbishops, Bishops, and other Ecclesiasticall persons, and observe all other things prescribed in the 55 Canon?

7 Item, Whether is your Minister or Curate, a Preacher allowed? If yea, then by whom? If no, whether doth he procure Sermons to be preached amongst you once in every month at the least, by such as are lawfully licenced according to the 46 Canon? And on every Sunday when there is no Sermon preached in that Church or Chapel, doth your Minister or Curate read some one of the Homilies prescribed by authority, as the same Canon prescribeth?

8 Item, Whether doth your Minister, being a beneficed man, and not resident upon his Benefice, cause his Cure to be supplied upon his own charge by a Curate that is sufficient, and a licenced Preacher, according to the 47 Canon?

9 Item, Whether hath any person bene admitted to preach within your Church or Chapel, but such as you have well known to be sufficiently licensed? And whether have you caused every Strange Preacher licenced or not licenced, to subscribe his name in a Book provided for that purpose, together with the day when he Preached according to the 50. and 52. Canons?

10 Item, Whether hath your Minister or Curate deferred or wilfully refused to baptize any Infant in his Parish being in danger, having bene duly informed of the weakness therof? And whether the Childe hath died in his default without Baptisme, contrary to the 68 and 69 Canons?

11 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, use to signe the children with the sign of the crosse, when and at what time he doth baptize them, according to the Book of common Prayer, and the 30 Canon?

12 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, every Sunday and Holiday, before Evening Prayer, for halfe an howre or more,

more, examine and instruct the youth and ignorant persons of his Parish in the ten Commandements, the Articles of Beleefe, and the Lords Prayer, as also in the Catechisme last set forth in the Booke of common Prayer, according to the 59 Canon.

13 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, administer the holy Communion, so often and at such times, as that every Parishioner may receive the same at least thrice in every yeere, whereof once at Easter, as by the booke of common Prayer and 21. Canon is appointed?

14 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, receive the holy communion himselfe on every day that he administreth it to others, kneeling at the same, and administreth it to none but such as doe kneele at the receiving thereof, and doth he use the words of Institution according to the Book of common Prayers at every time that the bread and wine is received, in such manner and forme as by the sayd booke and the 21. Canon is directed? And whether is warning given by him before hand for the Communion, as the 22. Canon requireth?

15 Item, Whether hath your Minister, or Curate, admitted to the Communion any notorious offendors, or Schismatickes, contrary to the 26, and 27. Constitutions?

16 Item, Whether hath your Minister, or Curate, administred the holy Communion to any of his Parish out of the Church, and in some private house, the party receiving being not hindred by sicknesse or infirmity of body from comming to Church to receive there Contrary to the 71. Canon?

17 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate use, or hath he refused to visit the sicke in your Parish, to pray with them, or to administer the Lords Supper unto them? And hath he at any time refused or neglected to bury the dead having beene required thereunto, contrary to the 68. Canon?

18 Item, Whether have you known, or have heard of any that have beene married in a private house, or that have beene married in the Church, the Banes having not beene for three severall Sundayes or Holidayes first published in the time of Divine service in the severall Churches or Chapels of their severall abodes according to the Booke of common Prayer, or in case the Banes have beene omitted, that have beene married without a sufficient

Licence, or that have béene married without Licence in time prohibited, albeit the Banes were first so published? or that have at any time of the day béene married, except betwéene the hours of eight and twelve in the forenoone, contrary to the 62 Canon? Set downe and declare the names of all such as have béen by reason of any the premises unlawfully married, and the party that married them, and all such as were present at any such marriage, or marriages.

19 Item, Whether hath your Minister or Curate, married any couple, both parties being of another Diocesse, or hath any couple of your Parish béen married in any other Dioces? if any have béen so married, or licensed to marry, then by whose authority they have béen so licensed? You shall present the Minister so marrying, the parties so married, and the authority whereby this was done, as far as you know or have heard.

20 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, use the form of Thanksgiving to women after their child-birth? and whether hath he admitted any thereto (that was begotten with child in adultery or fornication) without licence of his Ordinary?

21 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, use in the Rogation wéek to perambulate about your Parish, and to admonish his Parishioners to accompany him therein?

22 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, use the administration of the Holy Communion, Baptisme, Instruction of children, solemnization of marriage, Visitation of the sicke, Burial of the dead, the commination, and churching of women under such words, rites, and ceremonies as are set forth and prescribed by the book of common Prayer, and none other?

23 Item, Whether is your Minister continually resident with you upon his Benefice, or for how long time hath he béen absent, and where is he resident for the most part, and what other Benefice hath he?

24 Item, Whether hath your Minister any other Benefices, and whether doth he supply his absence by a Curate? whether is your Curate licensed to serve by the Lord Bishop of the Diocesse, or his Chancellor, and whether doth he serve any more Cures then one, and what other Cure doth he serve, and how far are they distant one from the other? and whether hath your

Curate

Curate any Benefice or cure of soules besides your Cure?

25 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, every sixt moneths denounce in his Parish all such as stand contumacious, under the sentence of excommunication, not seeking to be absolved, according to the 65 Canon? and whether hath he said divine Service while any excommunicate person hath been present in the Church, or hath admitted any person excommunicate into the Church, without a certificate of his absolution from the Ordinary or other competent Judge?

26 Item, Whether doth your Minister or Curate, use such decency and comelinesse in his apparell as by the 74. Constitution is injoyned him? and is he of sober behaviour, and one that doeth not use such bodily labour as is unseemly for his calling?

27 Item, Whether is your Minister or Curate, noted or reputed to be an incontinent person, a frequenter of Taverns or Alehouses, a common gamester or player at dice, a common swearer, or a drunkard, or faulty in any other crime punishable by Ecclesiasticall censures, whereby he is offensive or scandalous to his function or Ministery?

28 Item, Whether hath your Minister or Curate received any Excommunication, Suspension, or Aggravation from the Bishop of this Diocese, or his Chancellor, or other their Deputies against any of his Parishioners which he hath presumed to make stay of, and not published such Excommunication, Suspension or Aggravation the next Sunday or Holiday after the receit of the same, in the time of Divine Service, in your Church or Chapel?

29 Item, Whether doth your Minister, Curate or Lecturer publikely in his Sermon, or at private meetings, maintain or affirme any doctrine contrary or repugnant to any of the Articles of Religion set forth and established in the Church of England by authority? Present the name of the party offending against this or any the former Articles, and the time and place when & where the party did so offend.

30 Item, Whether hath your Minister, Curate, or Lecturer, duly observed the Kings instructions since the time that they have been published, and who hath beene faulty therein? You shall not faile to present his or their name or names.

31 Item, Ye shall inquire and present, whether the Act of Parliament made the 21. of King Iames concerning prophane swearing and cursing, hath been read in the Parish Church by the Minister thereof, upon the Sunday after evening Prayer, twice in the yeer according to the said Act.

32 Item, Whether doeth your Minister at the end of every Psalm, read in your Church throwout the yeer in the time of common Prayers, & likewise at the end of Benedictus Benedicite, Magnificat, & Nunc dimittis, repeat & say Glory be to the Father, &c. according to the Rubrick of the Book of common Prayers?

33 Item, Whether at the time of the saying of that part of common Prayers, which is intituled or called the Communion, the Priest or Minister of your parish doth stand at the North side of the Table, & there say the Lords Prayer, with the Collect following, according to the Rubrick of the book of Common Prayers?

Articles concerning the Church, and the Ornaments thereof.

FIrst, whether is your Church or Chapels, with the Chancell thereof, with your Parsonage or Vicarage house, and all other buildings thereunto belonging, in good reparation, and decently and comely kept both within and without? Are your bels and all things thereunto appertaining, in good reparation? And are the seats of your Church well maintained; if not, then through whose default, and what are the defects?

2 Item, Whether is your Churchyard well & sufficiently repaired, fenced, & maintained with wooden rails or pales, according to the 85. Canon? If not, then through whose default is any part left unrepaired, & at whose charge is the same to be repaired?

3 Item, Whether have you in the severall Churches or Chapels, the book of Constitutions or Canons Ecclesiasticall, ready to be read by the Minister, according to his Majesties pleasure, published by his Highnes Authority, under the great Seale of England?

4 Item, Whether have you in your Church or Chapell, the

Book

Book of common Prayer, the Book of Homilies, and a large Bible of the last edition, a Font-stone, a decent Communion Table, with a seemly carpet, and a cloth of fine linnen to cover the same at the Communion time? and is the Table of consanguinity set up in your Church?

5 Item, Whether have you in your Church or Chapell one Parchment Register Book, provided for Christnings, Marriages, and Burials? And is the same duly & exactly kept according to the Constitutions in that behalfe provided: and have the Churchwardens every yeer since the last Triennall Visitation, transmitted or brought in unto the Lord Bishop of this Diocesse, or his Chancellor, a true Transcript or copy therof, to be preserved in the Registry of the said Bishop, as by the 70. Canon is required?

6 Item, Whether have you a convenient seat for your Minister to read Service in, a comely Pulpit, with a decent cloth or cushion, and a cover for the same; a comely large Surplice, a faire Communion cup of silver, with a cover agreeable for the same, and all other ornaments necessary for the celebration of Divine Service and administration of the Sacraments?

7 Item, Whether have you a strong chest for the Alms of the Poor, with three locks & keyes, whereof the Minister is to keep one key, and the Churchwardens the other; & another chest for the keeping of the ornaments of the Church, and Register Booke?

8 Item, Whether have you a Terrier of all the glebe Lands, and portions of Tithe belonging to your Parsonage and Vicarage? where and in whose custody is it?

Articles concerning Parishioners.

FIrst Whether hath any Parishioner been admitted to receive the holy Communion, or to be a Godfather or Godmother, or whether have any been married who have not been first confirmed by the Bishop?

2 Item, Whether the Schoolmaster or Schoolmasters within your Parish be of good and sincere Religion (that is, of the Religion established in this Realm) life & conversation, & be diligent in teaching & bringing up of youth: and whether have they been examined & licensed for Schoolmasters by the Lord Bishop of this Diocese, or his Chancellor?

3 Item, Whether the Schoolmaster or Schoolmasters within your Parish do teach his or their Scholers any other Grammar then that which is called the Kings Grammar, set forth by authority of King Henry the eighth, teaching the prescript form thereof, whereby the Scholers thereof may perfectly understand their Grammar rules and constructions?

4 Item, Have you any in your Parish who do refuse to come to heare divine Service, or to receive the holy Communion in your Parish Church? Or have you any that do sojourne or lodge any such? You are to present the names both of the one and the other, and of what degree, trade, or state of life they are.

5 Item, Whether are there any in your Parish that doe not frequent divine Service in their Parish-church, or that do wilfully absent thēselves frō their own Parish-church, without any lawfull excuse, especially on Sundaies & holidais; or are there any that being above the age of 16 years, have not received the holy Communion at Easter last? you shall not fail to present their names.

6 Item, Whether doth the Schoolmaster of your Parish teach the children of his School the Catechisme by publike authority set forth, as the 79 Canon requireth?

7 Item, Doth any Parishioner of your Parish, not having an infirmity of body, cover his head in the Church or Chapel, in the time of divine Service? or if he have an infirmity or extremity of cold, doth he cover his head otherwise then by wearing a nightcap or coife?

8 Item,

8 Item, Doth any Parishioner of your Parish refuse or omit reverently to kneel upon his knees, when the generall confession, Litany, and other prayers are read, and to stand up at the saying of the Creed, according as is prescribed in that behalfe in the book of Common Prayer?

9 Item, Doth any Parishioner of your parish, being present at divine Service in your Church or Chapell, wilfully refuse or omit to expresse and doe some humble & lowly reverence of body, when in the said time of divine Service the Lord Jesus is mentioned or named? You shall not faile to present the names of such as refuse or omit to doe the same.

10 Item, Whether doth any parishioner of your parish abuse the liberty given in the Kings Majesties late Declaration, by using or exercising the recreations therein allowed on Sundayes, and Holidayes, unduly, or unseasonably, to the hindrance or neglect of divine Service, viz. before the end of all divine Services for that day?

11 Item, Whether doth any Parishioner of your Parish upon any Sunday use any Bear-baiting, Bull-baiting, Interludes, or Bowling, contrary to the said Declaration?

12 Item, Whether have any in your parish, men or women, who do abstain from comming to Church, or divine Service, and yet assume a liberty to use the recreations allowed in the said Declaration?

13 Item, Whether is there any parishioner of your parish conforming in Religion, who having been absent from your Parish Church at the Service of God for that day, doth notwithstanding go to the said recreations? you shall carefully present the names of such as offend in any of these last four Articles, and the time and place of the offence so committed.

14 Item, Whether have you any Feast of the Dedication of your Parish-Church, commonly called a Wake? on what day of the yeare is it usually observed and kept? how long do you remember that the said Wake hath been used or kept? and when was it last kept and observed?

15 Item, Whether have any such in your parish as have not communicated, have been admitted to be Godfathers or Godmothers, contrary to the 29. Canon?

16 Item, Whether doe all Fathers, Mothers, Maisters, & Mistresses cause their children, servants, & apprentices, to come to be catechized on the Sundays & Holidays before Evening Prayer to heare the word, and to be instructed & taught in the Principles of Religion? and those that do not their duty herein, you shall present their names.

17 Item, Whether do the parishioners usually resort unto their Churches upon Wednesdaies, Fridaies, and Holyday Eves, to heare divine service, & whether doe they kéep such fasting dayes as are appointed by the Church?

18 Item, Whether any of your Parishioners having a Preacher to their Parson, Vicar or Curate, doe without iust cause absent themselves from his Sermons, & willingly resort to any other place to heare other Preachers, or refuse to receive the holy Communion at his hands? And whether any other Minister hath received to the Communion any of your parish? And specifie the names both of the Minister and parishioner so offending.

19 Item, Whether there be any of your Parishioners that sit & remain in Taverns, or Ale-houses or in the stréets, or stand gazing in the Church-yard upon Sundaies & holidaies, in the time of divine Service or Sermon? or whether there by any Inne-kéeper or Alehouse-kéeper, that suffer or admit any to eat, drink, play at dice, cards, or such like game in their houses upon Sundayes or Holydayes in the time of divine Service or Sermon?

20 Item, Whether there be any that brawle, rayle or fight in the Church or Churchyard, or by their laughing, talking, walking, jesting or any other meanes, hinder the Minister, or disquiet any present at divine Service or Sermon?

21 Item, Whether be there any who in their speech and outward carriage, doe not esteeme & use your Minister with all reverence & respect due to the honor and dignity of his place and calling?

22 Item, Whether there be any that do worke, or kéepe open shop for sale of wares, or do labor about corne, hay, or any such business on any Sunday or Holiday?

23 Item, Whether habe you any in your parish to your knowledge, or by common fame & report, which have committed adultery, fornication, or incest, which have not beene publikely punished?

nished? any bawds, or receivers of incontinent persons into their houses, or any which do convey or suffer them to go away before they give satisfaction to the congregation in that behalfe?

24 Item, Whether have you any in your parish which are by common fame and report or vehement suspitien reputed and taken to be drunkards, blasphemers of Gods holy name, common and usuall swearers, filthy speakers, raylers, sowers of discord amongst their neighbors, usurers, fighters, brawlers, or quarrellers, in Church or Churchyard? you shall not faile to present their names.

25 Item, Whether have any in your parish received or harbored any woman with child, that was not before an housholder in your parish, or gotten with child out of wedlocke, and suffered her to depart againe without punishment first inflicted by the Ordinary? you shall present aswell the party harbouring as harboured, and who is suspected to be the father of the child, and who hath helped to convey her away.

26 Item, Whether there be any married women or others within your parish which after childbirth refuse or omit to come to the Church to give God thankes for their safe delivery, and to have the praiers publikely appointed in that behalfe, in the Book of Common Prayer, and doe they there in the doing thereof knéele downe in some convenient place, nigh unto the place where the table standeth, as is prescribed and appointed in the Book of Common Prayers?

27 Item, Whether have you any in your parish, who have béen married without banes or licence, or who have béene married in any private house, or out of the Church, or who have béen married in the Church unseasonably, & contrary to the Canon, viz. before eight of the clock in the morning, or after twelve in the afternoon. And doe any persons of your parish otherwise lawfully married, neglect or omit to receive the holy Communion on the day of their said mariage, according to the Rubrick of the Booke of Commen Prayers: you shall not faile to present all those who have beene faulty in any of the Premises.

28 Item, What Midwives have you within your parish? of what skill are they accounted for that office? and whether are they licensed by their Ordinary to execute the same?

29 Item, Whether have you any for your Parish that practise Phy∫icke or Surgerie, or what skill are they reputed to have for their profession? or whether do they practise without a particular Licence from the Bishop of this Diocese, or from his Chancellor in the Bishops absence?

30 Item, Whether do you know of any that doe teach or keepe Schoole, not having a Licence from the Ordinary, or whether any do associate or serve a Cure without Licence, contrary to the 48 Canon?

31 Item, Whether have you a fit parish Clerk aged 20. yeeres at least, of honest conversation, & sufficient for reading & writing, and whether he be paid his wages without fraud, according to the ancient customs of your Parish, and whether is the said Clerk approved by the Ordinary?

32 Item, Whether are there in your Parish any Wills not yet proved, or goods of the dead dying intestate left unadministred by authoritie of the Ordinary in that behalfe? And whether any possesse the goods of any person deceased, without authoritie from the Ordinary? You shall not faile to present the Executor, and all other culpable therein.

33 Item, Whether is there any Legacy given to the Church, or to other good and godly uses, as releefe of the poore Orphans, poore Scholers, poore maidens marriages, Schooles, high-wayes, and such like, which is not yet performed? If there be any such, you shall present what you know or can learne thereof, and by whose default the same is not performed.

34 Item, Whether have the former Church-wardens been carefull and faithfull in the execution of their office: and have they made a just account at the end of their yeere, according to the 89. Canon?

35 Item, Whether have any in your parish dying excommunicate, or wilfully destroying himselfe, been buried in Christian buriall in your Church or Churchyard, and what were their names so buried, and who were present at such burials?

36 Item, Whether any in your Parish hath or doth refuse to contribute towards the reparations of the Church, and to the provision of such things as belong thereunto?

37 Item, Whether any within your Parish doe resort into

Barnes,

Barns, fields, woods, or private houses, to any extraordinary exposition of Scriptures, or conferences together, or that be drawers, or perswaders of others to any such schismaticall conventicle?

38 Item, Whether is there any in your Parish that doe refuse to have their children baptized, or themselves to receive the Communion at the hands of your Minister, because he is no Preacher? You shall present their names.

39 Item, Whether any person in your parish be an impugner or depraver, either in word or writing of the forme of the Ecclesiasticall government in this Church of England, or that hath spoken in derogation of the Booke of Common Prayer, or the rites and ceremonies prescribed to be used either in the service of God, or Administration of the Sacraments, or against any of the Articles agreed upon, Anno 1562. or against the Kings supremecie in causes Ecclesiasticall, or against the oath of Supremacie, or Allegiance, as pretending the same to be not lawfull or warrantable by the word of God?

40 Item, Lastly, doe you know of any other matter of Ecclesiasticall cognizance, worthy the presentment in your judgement, which you hold fit to be reformed by Ecclesiasticall censure? You shall likewise present the same by vertue of your oaths aforesaid.

Articles concerning Ecclesiasticall Officers.

1 WHether do you know or have heard, that the Chancellor, Archdeacon, Officiall, or other inferior Officers Ecclesiasticall have at any time winked at, and suffered any faults punishable by Ecclesiasticall censure, and presented unto them, to passe and remaine unpunished, for mony, bribes, friendship, or other partiall respect?

2 Whether do you know or have heard that the Chancellour, Archdeacon, Officiall, or other under-officers belonging to them, have received any payment or composition for suppressing any presentment, excommunication, or other Ecclesiasticall censure against any offenders, or for not serving a Processe without a summe of mony promised or received?

3 Whether hath the Chancellor, Archdeacon, or their Deputies, or any Regiſter, Apparitor, or under-officer exacted extraordinarie or greater fees then heretofore of late have beene accuſtomed, or are warrantable according to the table of the rate of Fees belonging to the Court.

4 Whether doth the Archdeacon or his Officiall or ſubſtitute call for preſentments, and exact them at any other time or times than in the time of his viſitation, or the Archdeacon or his ſubſtitute under pretence to have the preſentments given in his viſitation corrected and amended, draw in other matters, which happen afterwards into his cognizance to the prejudice of the Lord Biſhop and his Chancelor, and what number of Apparators hath every ſeverall Eccleſiaſticall Iudge, and in what manner is the Country grieved and over-burthened by the ſayd Apparators?

5 The Church-wardens preſenting at the time of the Lord Biſhops viſitaton, ſhall bring in and deliver into the hands of the Lord Biſhop his Chancellor or of his Chancellors ſurrogate only, all and every of their bils of Preſentmeut, and the ſecond bills of preſentment made every yeare at the feaſt of Saint *Michael* the Arch-Angell, as well in the Lord Biſhops triennial as in the yeeres of the Archdeacons viſitation ſhall be brought in and delivered by the Church-wardens, without fee in the ſame manner, and with the ſame caution within the ſpace of thirty days after the ſaid feaſt under the paine of a contempt? And in the yeere of the Archdeacons viſitation, the ſecond bills of Preſentment aforeſaid, as well as the firſt are to be made according to the booke of Articles given in charge in the viſitation of the Archdeacon.

6 The Church-wardens and others in making rates towards the reparation of Churches and Chappells, are to charge every Contributer equally with juſt regard to every mans ability, according to law and the ancient uſage of the ſeverall pariſhes or hamlets: and if any refuſe to pay being ſo rated, they are to preſent not only the parties ſo refuſing, but alſo the ſeverall ſums wherewith they are charged.

7 The Church-wardens are once every yeere within one moneth after the twenty fifth day of March, to tranſmit or bring into the Lord Biſhop his Chancellor only a true copie of the Regiſter Books of their ſeverall Pariſhes or hamlets, obſerving ſuch

further

further direction therein as is set downe in the 70. Canon, and that they must not be charged with fees of appeareance for doing their duty herein within the time prefixed.

8 That the Church and the poore may not be defrauded of their legacies, or Orphans and yong children deprived of such Portions as belong unto them, the Church-wardens ought to be very careful to present such of their Parish or hamlets, who are thought to be the executors or next of kinne to such parties who died in their Parishes or hamlets, with or without a will: and if it be not knowne to the Church-wardens that any such will is proved or letter of Administration taken forth, the Church-wardens are to present such as are faulty for the halfe yeare before the time of his Presentment, or longer if need be, for the more sure doing whereof, and for the helpe of their memory, it is convenient that they have recourse to the Church booke of Christnings, Mariages, and Burialls.

FINIS.